

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

17 JUN 04

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>54492PCT DIA</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> <div style="float: right; font-size: small;">see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</div>	
International application No. <b>PCT/AU2004/000352</b>	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>22 March 2004</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>20 March 2003</b>
Applicant <b>PANOZZO, Aurora</b>		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of **5** sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box No. II).

3. ☒ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box No. III).

**4. With regard to the title,**

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

**5. With regard to the abstract,**

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

**6. With regard to the drawings,**

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. **1**

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/AU2004/000352

**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

**Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Searching Authority has found that there are different inventions as follows:

- (1) Claims 1 to 3 and 8 relate to a board game and a method for playing the board game which involves the completing of a central construction or image for a successful outcome. The completing of a central construction or image for a successful outcome is considered a first special technical feature.
- (2) Claims 4 to 7 relate to a method for playing a board game which does not require the completion of any central image or construction for a successful outcome. The method however involves the feature of each player selecting a marker being a piece or portion of a picture for use in the game. Such a feature is considered a second special technical feature.

Since the abovementioned groups of claims do not share any of the technical features identified, a "technical relationship" between the inventions, as defined in PCT rule 13.2 does not exist. Accordingly the international application does not relate to one invention or to a single inventive concept, a priori.

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.  
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000352

## Box No. IV Text of the Abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

A game including a board or a simulated board (1) in which there is a path way and a plurality of steps (4-7) including some of the steps (4-7) having the requirement that the player who lands on such a step (4-7) shall need to answer a question in relation to a group of questions relevant to the culture or history or otherwise of the cultural group and where each player, on achieving a successful outcome, is entitled to add one element to a central construction or image where a successful end to the game is where such a central image or construction is completed.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000352

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
Int. CL <sup>3</sup> : A63F 3/04, 9/18		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED		
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC A63F 3/04, 9/18		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) WPAT, USPTO Web Patent Database, Esp@cenet, "question, answer, culture etc."		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5683087 A (HENSHAW et al.) 4 November 1997 Entire document.	1-2
A	US 5679000 A (JOYCE) 21 October 1997 Entire document.	1-8
A	US 2002/0195772 A1 (TWEDDY) 26 December 2002 Entire document.	1-8
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex		
* Special categories of cited documents:		
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 11 May 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report 17 MAY 2004	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized officer  P. THONG Telephone No.: (02) 6283 2128	

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000352

**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

**Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Searching Authority has found that there are different inventions as follows:

- (1) Claims 1 to 3 and 8 relate to a board game and a method for playing the board game which involves the completing of a central construction or image for a successful outcome. The completing of a central construction or image for a successful outcome is considered a first special technical feature.
- (2) Claims 4 to 7 relate to a method for playing a board game which does not require the completion of any central image or construction for a successful outcome. The method however involves the feature of each player selecting a marker being a piece or portion of a picture for use in the game. Such a feature is considered a second special technical feature.

Since the abovementioned groups of claims do not share any of the technical features identified, a "technical relationship" between the inventions, as defined in PCT rule 13.2 does not exist. Accordingly the international application does not relate to one invention or to a single inventive concept, a priori.

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000352

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member	
US	5683087	AU 47957/96	CA 2171580 GB 2298803
US	5679000	NONE	
US	2002/0195772	NONE	
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.			
END OF ANNEX			